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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/098,672	03/15/2002	John Brady	02-0030	5697
30550	7590	01/16/2004	EXAMINER	
BILL & MARY LOU INC. 101 LOMBARD STREET #510 W SAN FRANCISCO, CA 94111			NGHIEM, MICHAEL P	
			ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER

2863

DATE MAILED: 01/16/2004

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

10/098,672

Applicant(s)

BRADY ET AL.

Examiner

Michael P Nghiem

Art Unit

2863

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).
- Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☐ Responsive to communication(s) filed on ____.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-14 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) ____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☒ Claim(s) 8-10 is/are allowed.
- 6) ☐ Claim(s) ____ is/are rejected.
- 7) ☒ Claim(s) 1-7 and 11-14 is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) ____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☒ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 15 March 2002 is/are: a) ☒ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
- Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
- Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 119 and 120

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
- ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 - ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. ____.
 - ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.
- 13) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e) (to a provisional application) since a specific reference was included in the first sentence of the specification or in an Application Data Sheet. 37 CFR 1.78.
- a) ☐ The translation of the foreign language provisional application has been received.
- 14) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 120 and/or 121 since a specific reference was included in the first sentence of the specification or in an Application Data Sheet. 37 CFR 1.78.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☐ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☒ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449) Paper No(s) 3-15-02.
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s). ____.
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 6) ☐ Other: .

DETAILED ACTION

Specification

1. The disclosure is objected to because of the following informalities:

- "sensor (60)" (page 8, line 4) should be -- sensor (58) --.
- after "piping" (page 11, line 3), should insert -- (82) --.
- "valve (82)" (page 11, line 4) should be -- valve (52) --.
- after "tap" (page 11, line 6), should insert -- (56) --; after "valve" should delete "(56)".

Appropriate correction is required.

Drawings

2. The drawings are objected to under 37 CFR 1.83(a). The drawings must show every feature of the invention specified in the claims. Therefore, the wellhead assembly (claims 1, 3, 4, 8), means for opening a second valve, means for setting the second valve position, means for measuring the gas composition (claim 3), a differential measurement instrument (claim 4), an electronic display and control circuit (claim 8), and a straight lower edge of the flap (claim 10) must be shown or the feature(s) canceled from the claim(s). No new matter should be entered.

A proposed drawing correction or corrected drawings are required in reply to the Office action to avoid abandonment of the application. The objection to the drawings will not be held in abeyance.

Claim Objections

3. Claims 1-7 and 11-14 are objected to because of the following informalities:

- claim 1, after "wellhead" (line 2) should insert -- assembly --.
- claim 1, the well extraction vacuum source (line 3) lacks antecedent basis.
- claim 1, the wellhead gas path (line 4) lacks antecedent basis.
- claim 3, is the means for adjusting ... pressure (line 14) different from or related to the means for setting the second valve (line 7)?
- claim 3, the gas path (line 2) lacks antecedent basis.
- claim 4, is the differential pressure measurement instrument (line 13) different from the means for adjusting ... pressure (line 14) different from or related to the electronic control circuit (line 16)?
- claim 6, after "control" (line 2) should insert – circuit --.
- claim 11, is the electronic control circuit (line 2) different from the electronic display and control circuit of claim 8 (line 16)?

Appropriate correction is required.

The remaining claims are also objected to for being dependent upon an objected base claim.

Allowable Subject Matter

4. Claims 2, 5-7, and 11-14 would be allowable if rewritten to overcome the rejection(s) under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, set forth in this Office action and to include all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

5. Claims 8-10 are allowed.

Reasons For Allowance

6. The combination or method as claimed wherein a landfill gas well extraction control system comprising a differential pressure-regulating valve and measuring the differential pressure across the complete wellhead assembly by measuring the pressure across the differential pressure-regulating valve (claims 1, 3, 4, 8) is not disclosed, suggested, or made obvious by the prior art of record.

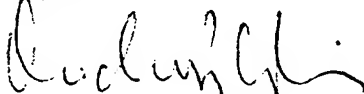
Brookshire et al. (US 6,169,962) discloses a system and for controlling gas flow from landfills (Figs. 1, 2) comprising a differential pressure regulating valve (SV2). However, measuring the pressure across the differential pressure-regulating valve (via PT1) does not result in the differential pressure across the complete wellhead assembly (44).

Contact Information

7. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Michael Nghiem whose telephone number is (703) 306-3445. The examiner can normally be reached on M-H from 6:30AM – 5:00 PM.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, John Barlow can be reached at (703) 308-3126. The fax phone numbers for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned are (703) 308-7724 for regular communications and (703) 308-5841 for After Final communications.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the receptionist whose telephone number is (703) 308-0956.



MICHAEL NGHIEM
PRIMARY EXAMINER

Michael Nghiem

January 12, 2004